SEVERALL INFORMATIONS AND EXAMINATIONS

Taken concerning Lieutenant Colonell

Iohn Lilburn,

SHEWING HIS

APOSTACY

to the Party of

Charles Stuart:

[illegible] what his Intentions are in coming o-
[illegible] into ENGLAND out of FLANDERS.

LONDON,

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A Perfect Narrative of what passages I observed from Lieut. Col. Joh. Lilburn, *and others, touching him in* Flanders.

About the beginning of *July* 1652. I was imployed on the behalf of this Common-wealth into *Holland*, and *Flanders*, and landing at *Ostend*, I found a number of very desperate enemies of all sorts to this Commonwealth, with whom I observed Lieut. C. *Lilburn* much to associate; and having observed before his restlesness of spirit, and that his late actions had rendred him so obnoxious to this Common-wealth, that incurred an Act of Banishment upon himself; I therefore applyed my self to find out what his endeavours at present drove at: And to this purpose it was not long before I found that Lieut. Col. *Lilburn* had been very conversant with Cap. *Ioh. Bartlet*, and to whom he had imparted severall secrets, as he himself called them, the said Cap. *John Bartlet* who told me, that there were many delinquents and Cavaliers of dangerous consequence that escaped out of *England* to that Town of *Ostend*, whom L. C. *Lilburn* no sooner heard of, but came to them, and in as grosse a manner as he could, did endeavour to lessen the Justice, Honor, and power of this Commonwealth, and this in so vile and scurilous language, as produc'd rather a wonder than an affection in its chiefest adversaries, as was several times confessed to me by several of them with whom he convers'd. Cap. *Bartlet* as well as several others further told me that L. C. *John Lilburn* kept great correspondencies with several people in *England*, and that one *Sanctly* Mr. *Prinns* man he conceived did send away his letters, for which purpose the Lie. Col. every Saturday came from *Bruges* to *Ostend*, and having wrote them, on the Monday following he returned, as I my self often ob-

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ſerved him to do. Not long after I heard Col. *Charls Lloid*, ſometimes called Sir *Charls Lloid*, Engineer General, and Quarter-maſter General to the late King, Cap. *Luke Whitington*, Agent to *Charls Stuart*, Cap. *Iohn Tytus*, Cap. *Ioh. Bartlet* ſay that L.C. *Iohn Lilburn* had propoſed ſeveral times, ſometimes to the *Duke* of *Buckingham*, ſometimes to Sir *Ralph Hopton*, ſometimes call'd the Lord *Hopton*, and ſometimes to Col. *Charls Lloid* aforeſaid, and ſeveral others, That if any of the forenamed perſons would procure him 100001. he would deſtroy the Lord General *Cromwel*, the Parliament, and the Council of State that now ſitteth at *Weſtminſter*, and ſettle *Charls Stuart* (King of *England* as he called him) in his Throne in *England*, or he would have a piece of him nayl'd upon every poſt in *Bruges*. In anſwer to which, Sir *Charls Lloid* as aforeſaid told me, that if he thought the L. Col. could perform what he propoſed to them, it would be hard but they would procure ſo much money upon ſo good a ſcore. I obſerved further from L.C. *Iohn Lilburn*, and others who told me of his actions, that the L.Col. did not only move with much violence and earneſtneſs, ſhewing which way he would bring this his propoſed deſign about, but went from perſon to perſon whoſe reputation he thought could procure ſo much as he propoſed for (for the advancement of this his declared deſign) and whoſe affections and opinions were moſt ſuitable to further him in ſuch imployments.

Not long after this L.C. *Lilburn* took up a preſumtion that I was imployed by the Commonwealth of *England*, which he averred he was certified of by ſeveral of his friends (and named one *Col. Layton* as one of his friends, who now ſtands exil'd from this Commonwealth, and was Secretary to the Council of Warr to *Charls Stuart* in *Scotland*.) The L.C. hereupon went to the Duke of *Buckingham*, Sir *Ralph Hopton* as aforeſaid, *Col. Charls Lloid* as aforeſaid, Major General *Diel* a *Scotchman* that came and invaded *England* with *Charls Stuart*, and had lately broke out of the Tower, Dr. *Nicholas*, Judge of the Admiralty court in *Dunkirk* for *Charls Stuart*, Cap. *Luke Whitington* Agent for *Charls Stuart*, Cap. *Iohn Tytus*, brother to Cap. *Tytus* the profeſſed Enemie of this Commonwealth, Cap. *Iohn Bartlet*, and what other Cavaliers he could meet with, and told them that I was a Spy for the P[illegible] of *England*, and warned them to be-

ware

ware of me. For he had already ſpoiled two of the Parliament Spyes, and would in a ſhort time ruin me alſo. And to this purpoſe (as *Cap. Tytus* and ſeveral others afterwards told me) the Li. Col. went to *Placingdal*, and the ſaid *Col. Layton*, where they way-laid me an hour and a half to have ruined me, as L. C. *Lil.* often ſaid he would, though it pleaſed God in his Mercy not to let me come that day from *Oſtend*, when I knew nothing of the deſign againſt me. Not long after this I converſed with ſome of the L. C. his Aſſociats, and told them I wondred much why *L. C. Lilburn* ſhould offer thus to abuſe his own Country-man in another Nation, in ſo high a Nature as he had done me, ſince I never did him hurt, and repeating what I had heard from others, that *L. C. Lilburn* ſhould ſay of me; It was ſoon told the *L. Col.* again, who preſently preſumed that it was *Cap. Bartlet* that had told me, and from that time forward he ſought with more violence than before to have me murdered, as too plainly appeared by his after-actions, and by two witneſſes that I examined by order, who gave it under their hands, and offered to depoſe it, That one of the *L. C.* his Conſpirators againſt me, often told them, that the *L. C.* and this other Conſpirator had hired a man to have ſtabb'd me, becauſe I was employed an Intelligencer for the Parliament of *England*; and had not I eſcaped ſpeedily away, their buſineſs had been effected upon me. But I underſtanding the *L. C.* his practiſes againſt me, reſolved on my voyage for *England*; which being underſtood by the Lieut. Col. ſome more men beſides himſelf with weapons way-laid me and *Cap. Bartlet* (as we were to take boat for *Oſtend*) that ſo he might have executed what he had formerly ſpoke againſt me, which was for this purpoſe (as ſome afterwards confeſſed to me, who had it from his own mouth) that his carriages in *Flanders* ſhould not be declared to the Parliament of *England*, for ſaid he, as they have baniſhed my perſon, ſo they will ſequeſter my eſtate. But it pleaſed Almighty God this ſecond time by his providence to protect me, in giving me a reſolution not to go till the morrow, which the *L. C.* perceiving, ſuppoſed himſelf to be diſcovered, and returned into the Town, And ſuddenly thereupon came on *Cap. Bret* an *Iriſh* Rebell to inquire for *Cap. Bartlet*, with the ſaid *Cap. Whitington*, who were both privy to the deſign, and diſcovered it, after God in his mercy had prevented them. By this time it was noyſed up and down the City, inſomuch that

ſome of the Citizens offered me their aſſiſtance, which ſome of them afterwards gave me, and brought me to the boat the next day; at which time the Lieut. C. with ſome more of his Conſpirators lay behind a hedge, near the way that I was to paſſe, and thus bleſſed be God I eſcaped his hands.

A little before the Lieut. C. had diſcovered that Captain *Bartlet* informed me of whatſoever the Lieut. C. told him, Capt. *Bartlet* ſaid that he had told him that he the Lieut. C. had much intercourſe and correſpondency with *Holland*, by which means, he would ruin me, in cauſing me to be apprehended, becauſe (as he ſaid) I was a Spy for the Commonwealth of *England*, which Capt. *Bartlet* giving me timely notice of, hindred my journey, and ſo a third time I eſcaped his malice, which was not againſt me any further, than as he ſaid I was a Spy for the Common-wealth of *England*.

ISAAC BERKENHEAD.

The Examination of Capt. John Tytus, *concerning Lieut. Col.* John Lilburn, *Sept.* 22. 1652.

THis Examinant ſaith, that the ſaid Lieut. C. *John Lilburn* propoſed to the Lord *Hopton*, that if he would procure him ten thouſand pounds, he would deſtroy the Common-wealth of *England* in ſix moneths, or he would have a piece of him naild upon every Poſt in *Bruges*. The Lord *Hopton* told the ſaid *Lilburn*, that it could not be ſo facile a thing, though he believed it would be done, but not in ſo ſhort time; to which the ſaid *Lilburn* replyed, My Lord, Ile ſhew you how it ſhall be done; give me but the monies that I propoſe for, and Ile have my Agents (for I have enough of them) that ſhall give me a continual account of all the Commonwealth of *Englands* Proceedings: And by thoſe Agents I will ſpread My Papers abroad, that ſhall inſtigate the people againſt the Parliament, and ſo by that Power I have already, and that Power that My Agents ſhall make by working upon the people, I will deſtroy this Parliament, the Councill of State, and the Lord General *Cromwell*, in half an hour.

This Examinant further ſaith, that *George Villers*, Duke of *Buckingham*, ſent for the ſaid *Lilburn* to inquire which way he might make his addreſſes to the Parliament for his Peace; But

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the ſaid *Lilburn* adviſed the *Duke* from it, for that the Lord General *Cromwell* and the Parliament were ſo falſe a Company of Rogues, that it was not ſafe for the ſaid *Duke* to put his life into their hands: And further ſaid, that if the King (to wit *Charles Stuart*) would but obſerve what he the ſaid *Lilburn* had ſet down in ſome Papers, which ſhew the reaſon why the ſaid *Lilburn* would not be a Cavalier, and reform but them, he might eaſily do his buſineſſe and ſit in his chair. But the ſaid *Duke* ſpurr'd him the ſaid *Lilburn* on to his firſt requeſt of adviſing him which way he might make his peace with the Parliament. But the ſaid *Lilburn* would not hear of that, but adviſed the ſaid *Duke* to the contrary, and further telling him the ſaid Duke, that they had hitherto (naming his Excellency the Lord General *Cromwell* and the Parliament) broken all their Ingagements, and particularly the Lord General, to me, who promiſed with all the Proteſtations in the world, and by what ever elſe was ſacred, that ſo ſoon as the General had done his buſineſs in *Scotland*, he would then anſwer all their expectations and deſires (meaning the deſires of that party which are called *Levellers*) and further promiſed that *Magna Charta* ſhould be ſet on foot, and all the privileges of the people fully anſwered, according as they the ſaid *Levellers* had in ſeveral papers of theirs propoſed.

But the ſaid Duke ſtill drove the ſaid *Lilburn* off, deſiring him the ſaid *Lilburn*, that if he had any intereſt or party in *England* (as he the ſaid *Lilburn* boaſted much of) that he would uſe it on the Dukes behalf; for, ſaid the ſaid Duke, could I procure a paſs to day to come into my native Country, I would fling my ſelf into the Lord General and Parliaments hands to morrow; For ſaid he the ſaid Duke, ſo far as I have aſſiſted the King hitherto, hath been but to quit my ſelf of ingratitude, ſince my Family hath been raiſed by the King and his Anceſtors. To which the ſaid *Lilburn* replyed, My Lord, ſince you are ſo reſolved, I would advice you not to ſtir in ſuch things as yet, for that there is expected a New Repreſentative, at which time he the ſaid *Lilburn* doubted not but he ſhould be able to do him the ſaid Duke ſervice, for he the ſaid *Lil.* ſhould then be as powerful as any in the Repreſentative. But the ſaid Duke deſired that if he the ſaid *Lilburn* had any Intereſt that he would uſe it forthwith, for that he had a deſire to be reconciled to his Country. To which the ſaid *Lilburn* replyed, My Lord, the

General

General and the Parliament are ſo falſe a company of Rogues, that it cannot be ſafe for you to put your ſelf in their hands.

This Examinant further ſaith, that at this ſame time the ſaid *Lil.* propoſed to the ſaid Duke, that if he the ſaid Duke could but procure him 100000l. he the ſaid *Lilburn* would have a piece of him nailed upon every poſt in *Bruges*, if he the ſaid *Lilburn* did not overthrow and deſtroy thoſe damnable Villains in *England*, I mean ſaid he the ſaid *Lilburn*, the Lord General *Cromwell*, the Parliament, and that Monſtrous Councill of State. To which the ſaid Duke replyed, I pray you Sir let me hear which way you will do this. The ſaid *Lilburn* replyed, My Lord, Ile tell you how; Firſt Ile ſet my Preſſe on work (for which purpoſe I have bought one with a Letter at *Amſterdam*, which coſt me thirty pounds) and then Ile ſend my papers over into *England*, which by my Agents ſhall be ſpread all over the Nation, and by my Agents (for I have enough) my papers ſhall be brought into the Army there, (where I have double Intereſt) and now every Trooper begins to underſtand his own privilege, and ſo ſoon as theſe papers are ſpread they'l fly in the faces of their Officers, ſo that with the help of my particular intereſt, the Souldiery ſhall do all themſelves, and Ile do nothing but ſit in my chair and uſe my pen. To which the Duke replyed, Sir, you may obſerve that in all your attempts the General out-witted you, and broke your buſineſs in the bud; beſides, you may ſee that on all occaſions the Souldiery hath been obedient unto his Officer, ſo diſcreetly hath the Generall ordered his Army. Why then, ſaith the ſaid *Lilburn*, I perceive you take the General for a wiſe man. Yes ſaid the Duke, let the world read his Stories and they'l find him ſo. No, ſaid the ſaid *Lilburn*, I know him to be otherwiſe, for heretofore all his Buſineſs was mannaged by *Ireton*, and is ſince by others; And for the Generall himſelf, he is as falſe a perfidious falſe-hearted Rogue as ever lived in the world. And I know no reaſon why I ſhould not vy with *Cromwell*, ſince I had once as great a power as he had, and greater too, and am as good a Gentleman, and of as good a family. To this the ſaid Duke replyed, Sir, if you have any Intereſt in *England* (as you ſay you have) I pray you to uſe it for me, for I have a great deſire to be reconciled to my native Country. Then the ſaid *Lilburn* perceiving he could not moove the ſaid Duke to any thing in relation to his the ſaid *Lilburns* propoſalls and perſwaſions, he the ſaid

Lilburn

Lilburn promised to use his interest in *England* on the said Dukes behalf; To which purpose the said *Lilburn* wrote to some in *England*, but to whom this Examinant knoweth not. But withall the said *Lilburn* advised the said Duke not to stir in it yet.

This Examinant further saith, that the said *Lilburn* said that there was one *Rogers* that was a Rogue, for that he was a Spy for the Common-wealth of *England*, and therefore he the said *Lilburn* would ruin and destroy him; And that he the said *Lilburn* had discovered several that were imployd in that way before. And after this apprehending the said *Rogers* was to come towards *Bruges*, the said *Lilburn* lay an hour and a half waiting for the said *Rogers* his coming, at *Placingdoll*, three English miles from *Ostend*, which was his way to *Bruges*.

The Examinant further saith, that there was one Mr. *Lambert* (a man that keeps much company with the said *Lilburn*, who took the said *Lilburn* his house for him in *Bruges*,) that said that Lieut. C. *Lilburn* told him the said *Lambert*, that he the said *Lilburn* had found a Rogue out, one *Rogers*, that was a Spy for the Common-wealth of *England*. The said *Lambert* further said with another Papist (commonly called by the name of *Paracelsus*) as he the said *Lambert* was, that if the said *Rogers* had staid two daies longer in the Town, he the said *Rogers* should never have gone thence alive, for that they would have him the said *Rogers* knocked on the head.

This Examinant further saith, that the said *Lilburn* said, that the Lord General had abused Major General *Lambert*, who when time serv'd, would be revenged on the General.

JOHN TYTUS.

The Examination of Capt. John Bartlet, *concerning Lieut. Col.* John Lilburn.

ABout the 20. of *July* 1652, in an Arbor in *Placingdoll*, three miles from *Ostend* in *Flanders*, Lieut. Col. *John Lilburn* did propose to Col. *Charles Lloyd*, sometimes called Sir *Charles Lloyd*, Quarter-master General, and Egineer General to the late King, in the late warres in *England*, and to Capt. *John Bartlet* this Examinant, and Capt. *Luke Whittington*, Agent for the King of *Scots*, that if he the said *Charles Lloyd*, or any of the aforesaid

persons, would procure him ten thousand pounds, he the said *Lilburn* would settle the King in his Throne (to wit *Charles Stuart*) in *England*. And this Examinant further saith, that at the same time the said *Lilburn* said, that the King (to wit *Charles Stuart*) should never come into his Throne, but by his the said *Lilburns* means; And that he further said, the said *Lilburn* did oppose the late Kings death more than any man in *England* besides, then durst do. And this Examinant further saith, that the said *Lilburn* did then boast much of the largeness of his own party (as he the said *Lilburn* called them) which he had in *England*.

This Examinant further saith, that there was a Rumór in *Flanders*, that his Excellency the Lord General *Cromwell* was made Lord Admiral of the Seas, and that he was to go to Sea in the Ship called the Soveraign, the which when Lieut. Col. *Lilburn* heard, he was very angry, saying, That the General had more commands than ever *Julius Cæsar* had, but tis no matter said he, let him go to Sea when he will, Ile warrant him he shall never return; or words to this effect.

This Examinant further saith, That Lieut. Col. *John Lilburn* said, that Mr. *Rogers* was a Spy for the Common-wealth of *England*, as he was told by Lieut. Col. *Layton*. And further said, that if he the said *Lilburn* knew it certainly, he would destroy the said *Rogers*; And further said, that he had warn'd the Duke of *Buckingham*, the Lord *Hopton*, Doctor *Nicholas*, Judge of the Admiralty Court for the *Scotch* King in *Dunkirk*, and several other Cavaliers, that they should not trust him, and the said *Lilburn* further said, that he had spoild two of the Parliaments Spies already, and would do the like to this; And further said, that he the said *Lilburn*, and the said Col. *Layton* (supposing which way the said *Rogers* would come) lay an hour and a half waiting for him, but though he mist him then, he would ruin him afterwards; and at this time the said *Lilb.* commanded this Examinant to keep it secretly, and to beware of him the said *Rogers*. After this it appeared that the said *Lilburn* had intelligence that this Examinant had discovered to the said *Rogers* what had formerly past betwixt the said *Lilburn* and this Examinant as secrets, and what is related in this Paper; and understanding that the said *Rogers* and this Examinant were to go from *Bruges* to *Ostend*, and so for *England*, that none of the said *Lilburns* actions might be declared

ed there in *England* to the Parliament, which the ſaid *Lilburn* feard, he the ſaid *Lilburn* with certain others that he had procured with their weapons, as Piſtols and Swords, way-laid the ſaid *Rogers* and this Examinant, but by Providence the ſaid *Rogers* reſolved not to go that day, and prevalld with this Examinant to ſtay till the next, which this Examinant d'd, though they never heard any thing of the Conſpiracy againſt them. But their ſtay being underſtood by the ſaid *Lilburn* and the reſt of his conſpirators, one that was privy to the conſpiracy Capt. *Ignatius Brett* an *Iriſh* Rebel, with Capt. *Luke Whittington*, came to the houſe where this Examinant and the ſaid *Rogers* were, and this ſaid *Brett* ſent for this Examinant, and asked this Examinant what was the reaſon why this Examinant continued not his reſolution for his journey. This Examinant anſwered that by a friends advice he ſtaid till to morrow. The ſaid *Brett* replyed, you may thank God you went not down to the boat, for had you gone, ye had been harder put to it in fighting than ever you were in your dayes; whereupon this Examinant asked the ſaid *Brett*, by whom? the ſaid *Brett* anſwered you ſhall excuſe me, I will never be a Traitor to them ſo long as I live, but you know them all as well as I. Then the ſaid *Whittington* being in company ſaid, I am glad with all my heart you went not down, for the perſons were *Lilburn*, &c. who were all well furniſhed for this purpoſe. With that the ſaid *Brett* ſaid, Gentlemen, you are my witneſſes that I diſcovered them not. And this being noiſed abroad in the Town, a Merchant of the Town offered the ſaid *Rogers* if he pleaſed he would cauſe them all to be clapped up, which the ſaid *Rogers* refuſed, providing themſelves againſt them.

This Examinant further ſaith, that before this, the ſaid *Lilburn* told him that he the ſaid *Lilburn* had good intercourſe with *Holland*, and would cauſe the ſaid *Rogers* to be ſurprized there, for that he was a Spy for the Commonwealth of *England*.

This Examinant further ſaith, that the ſaid *Lilburn* was reading a Declaration of the Parliament of *Englands* touching the War with the *Hollanders*, the ſaid *Lilburn* profeſſed, that were the Parliament half ſo honeſt as they were wiſe they were the braveſt people in the world. But the *Dutch* were fools, for had he their cauſe in handling, he would choak the Parliament in two words; which ſhould be in telling them of their promiſes made to the late

King, in preserving his Person, Honour, Crown and Dignity, and how falsly they have broken them all.

John Bartlet.

For my dear and loving wife Mrs. Elizabeth Lilburn, *these with haſt, haſt, poſt haſt deliver in* London.

My Dear Love,

I Have been, and yet am in a longing Condition to hear from thee, but I confeſſe by this Poſt I have nothing to expect from thee, more than to hear that thou art ſafely got amongſt our Friends at *London*, where I hope your joint activity will be ſuch (according to my full Inſtructions to you and my true friend that went with you) as that you will procure my expected Paſſe ſo ſpeedily as to ſend it me, or a Copy of it, with my friends encouragement, to *Dunkirk*, the next Poſt, where by Gods aſſiſtance I will be on Sunday next at night; and if it come, its more than probable I may come to *Dover* that Packet (or certainly ſend you word when by Gods gratious permiſſion I ſhall) for I long to ſee *London*, and if I come ſo ſuddenly, I ſhall leave all my things behind me in the care and poſſeſſion of Mr. *Lambert*, for which I can either come over my ſelf again, or ſend for them. One reaſon that moves me to make the more haſt, is becauſe if I come over, and find things in a handſome way to my liking, I have ſomething of very great conſequence to ſay ſpeedily to ſuch a great faithfull man as I ſhall truſt, and if I come, I ſhall ſtay at Dover a Day, 2 or 3, and by the Poſt let you know I am there, and expect you to ſend me a horſe to *Canterbury*, where at the Poſt-houſe I intend to ly the firſt night, and ſhall not ſtir from thence till I receive a Horſe from you.

But if our new Councill of State, or Governors, will not caſt a favourable eye upon you, but either deny or delay you a Paſs, ſo that the next Poſt I hear not of it, I ſhall then take it for granted that Major General *Harriſon*, being, as I hear, one of your new Councill of State, is my principalleſt, and grandeſt adverſarie, and accordingly I ſhall onely take ariſe from what I was informed he ſaid in the Houſe at my Baniſhment, and what he ſaid publickly at *Alhallowes* (when from *Dover* I ſent my letter to the people that meet there) to write him ſuch a Letter, which already

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in my brain I have contrived) as will no way please him, let the Issue be what it will. I have writ again to Major General *Lambert* (who I hear is President of your new Councill) and enclosed him one of my printed Epistles, in *Dutch* and *English*, I have also writ to Col. *Bennet*, which you may read the Copie of on the other side.

So with my hearty and true love and affection presented to thee and all my friends in the bulk, longing above measure to hear from thee, I commit thee and my poor Babes, as my own soul, to the Protection of the most high, and rest thy faithfull and loving Husband *I. L.*

I have herewith enclosed one of my printed Letters, which I hope are before now printed at *London*; I have already sent two Copies of this two several waies for fear of miscarriage.

I am in hast, and cannot read this over, the Post is going, therefore mend the faults if there be any.

The Information of Rich. Foot, *concerning* Lie. *Col.* John Lilburn.

BEing in *Flanders* about three moneths since, I came acquainted with L. Col. *John Lilburn*, where among other discourse I askt him why he did not apply himself to learn some language, he being then unable to speak to any of the Country without an Interpreter; he answered me, that he thought himself too old to learn languages, and said he had work enough to set his adversaries by the ears. Few daies after I came into *England*, and about 7 weeks or 2 moneths since returning there again, he told me that his wife had been there, and that he had sent her into *England* with a Letter to *Cromwell*, a Copy of which he gave me in print, and that he expected a pass to go into *England*, he would not stay a day after it came, though he hired a boat of purpose; then one *Parker* a Cavalier taking his leave of him, askt if he might not write to him, he answered, no, I will receive no letters from Mr. *Parker*; then he askt if not by another name, to that he assented. So *Lilburn* went to *Dunkirk* with great confidence that he should receive his passe there; and few daies after one *Jamot*, which had been a Lieut. Col. for the late King, came Post from *Paris*, staying but one night at *Antwerp* with his wife, and came to *Bridges*, and not finding *Lil.* there, came to my lodging early in the morning & asked me if I thought he was gone for *England*, then presently went away

to

to the boat, to which I hasted, & went with him to *Dunkirk*, & often by the way he askt me if I thought *Lilburn* was gone, speaking as if he extremely feared it; as soon as he had taken up his lodging in *Dunkirk* he went to seek *Lilburn*, and finding him in the street delivered him a Letter, and had some private discourse with him; a while after comming to them at a Tavern, *Lilburn* desired me to go to *Bridges* for a letter directed to him from Sir *Henry Denis*, wherein he said was a Pass for the Duke of *Buckingham* to come into *Flanders*, and to that purpose he gave me a Letter unsealed, directed to Mr. *Tho. Lambert* at *Bridges*, desiring him to enquire for the said Letter, and deliver it to me, which was accordingly done, at my being at *Bridges* the aforesaid Mr. *Parkers* wife delivered me a Letter directed to [redacted] or some such like name, desiring me to deliver it to *Lilburn*, saying it was for him, I asked why it was so directed, she said he well knew the meaning of it; at my return to *Dunkirk* I received a letter from *Jamot*, wherein he wrote they were gone to *Callis* to meet the Duke of *Buckingham*, and desired me to send the aforesaid letter with the pass in it to *Gravelling*, and within 2 or 3 daies after returned to *Dunkirk*, being Sunday the 29. of *May*, and *Lilburn* and *Jamot* being at a Tavern called the *Conserge* with one Cap. *Whitington* and *Col. Layton*, both of the Kings party here in *England*, and two Merchants, desired me to send one for his letters to the Post house, upon which one of the company askt him what he would say if this pass came not, he said that if my pass come not, and that I find that it is *Cromwell* that hinders it, as it must be, for it lies in his power, I will either kill him my self, or send one to do it; then one of the Merchants askt him how he could do such a thing with conscience, he answered tell not me of conscience in this case, for if that I am banished without law, conscience or equity, & deprived of my natural air to breath in, which is every mans birth-right, with such like expressions) I may justly right my self if I can; if I would take a hare or a deer, I ought to give him fair play, because they are beast of game; but if a fox or wolf, I may use what device I can to kill him; so if *Cromwell* keep himself above the Law, that I cannot have my right by the Law, I may kill him how I can. Then presently his letters came, and after he had read them, and saw his pass was not come, he said, I am resolved to have one fling more at *Cromwell*. Further he said, that *Cromwell* hath been an Atheist this seven years, and that his design is and hath been

been to make himself King; so having been there together three or four hours, expressing great confidence in one another, I and this Informant left them. The next day *Lilburn* and *Layton* went again for *Callis* to the Duke of *Buckingham*, and were not returned when I came for *England*, which was eight dayes after.

RICHARD FOOT.

The Information of John Staplehill, *of* Dartmouth, *taken* 20 *June*, 1653.

THis Informant saith, coming through *France* in his way to *England* from *Spain*, he lodged at *Callis*, upon Friday Sevenight at the Silver Lyon, where was the Duke of *Buckingham*, and likewise some Colloneis of the late Kings Army, and with them was Lieut. Col. *John Lilburn* and his wife, that the Informant being in the next Chamber, he heard them discourse of the Lord General *Cromwell*, but could not understand distinctly the particulars of their discourse, but did apprehend he spake very slightly of the General, hearing him say these words, *Cromwell*, what can *Cromwell* do? And this Informant did observe, that the said Duke, Cavaliers and *Lilburn* were very familiar together, and *Lilburn* and his wife dined and supped constantly with them; That the Informant being bound for *England*, hired a Boat upon Sunday for his passage, and being upon the Key, a Boat man came to him, and told him that he need not hire a Boat, but might go over with three Gentlemen that were going over, meaning Lieut: Col. *Lilburn* and two Caviliers in his company, and the Boatman went to them to ask them, whether this Informant might not go with them, but the said *Lilburn* refused to admit it, and said he should not go with them. And he afterwards hearing that the Informant had hired a Boat himself, procured the Duke to go to the Governour of *Callis* to stop the Informants going over at that time, and the Informant being sent for by the Governour to that purpose, the Informant met the said Duke there, and was then prohibited by the Governour, not to depart till he had leave, so the said *Lilburn* went away that night about midnight, with his wife, and two Caviliers, whereof one was a Collonel, and embarqued all in one Boat, the Duke accompanying them to the water side.

That

That the next day about two a Clock, the Governour gave liberty to the Informant to come away, who arrived at *Dover* at seven a Clock the same night, where he heard *Lilburn* arrived in the morning before; and this Informant coming through *Canterbury* in his way to *London*, staid at the three Kings, the Post-house to dine, and there asked whether Lieut. Col. *Lilburn* past that way, and one of the Drawers told him he did, and the Informant thereupon saying, he was a great Enemy to the General, the Drawer answered, that he did [illegible] as much here, saying, He came into *England* with[illegible], and that he did not fear what *Cromwell* could [illegible] as good a man as he, and this was upon Tuesday last. [illegible]wise boasted, that he had caused three Gentlemen to be stopt at *Calais*, which was the Informant, a Spaniard, and an Englishman, who [illegible] company together.

JOHN STAPLEHILL.

FINIS.